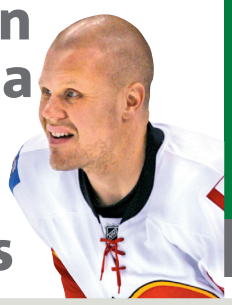
GM BANKRUPTCY WORRIES GROWING, PG10

Sports pg 11

Jokinen scores a pair to boost Flames



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Car thefts down from last year

POLICE Car thieves beware.

According to Calgary police, car thieves heeded the warning and there has been a significant decline in car thefts since the introduction of the service's Bait Car program in November 2008.

In the first two months of 2009, car thefts have dropped to 670 from 874 in the same period last year and in the four months the Bait Car program has been running, the rate of stolen vehicles has decreased between 17 and 32 per cent every month. Bait cars are equipped with GPS systems and hidden cameras to catch offenders.

METRO CALGARY

Music

Tenors perform

ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

The Canadian Tenors, from left to right, Fraser Walters, Victor Micallef, Clifton Murray and Remigio Pereira gave a private performance at Pengrowth Energy after a sponsorship announcement to aid the group's musical endeavours.

No jail for bus killer: Judge

VICTORIA HANDYSIDES
Metro Canada

RULING A judge has ruled the man who committed one of the most horrific crimes in Canadian history will be sent to a mental health facility instead of prison.

The mother of 22-year-old beheading victim Tim McLean said it came as no surprise Vince Li was found not criminally responsible for the gruesome crime, but said he should still be held accountable.

"Whether he was in his right frame of mind or not, he still did the act. There was nobody else on that bus holding a knife, slicing up my child," Carol DeDelley said to reporters outside a Winnipeg courthouse.

Queen's Bench Justice John Scurfield ruled Li was clearly suffering a major mental illness when he decapitated and cannibalized his sleeping seatmate on a trip from Edmonton to Winnipeg on July 30.

DeDelley said laws should be changed so criminals are found not psychologically accountable, but still criminally responsible.

"Due to no fault of his own, a major illness took my son's life, but he was never sick," she said, adding that annual visits to ensure Li remains locked up will replace her son's birthday each year.

Riding the Recession

Now through the end of March, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

Canada

- **How are Employment Insurance offices dealing with an increased number of people applying for EI payments? pg 4**

Next Week

- **Anne Hines offers some odd money-saving tips.**
- **How to deal with recession stress.**
- **Putting brakes on car maintenance costs.**

Fans flock to Brier

City expected to reap huge benefits from curling event

KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

Brier fans are flocking to the city in droves Friday and the city will be reaping the rewards of the men's national championship bonspiel for months to come, according to local groups.

Tourism Calgary's vice-president, Marco De Iaco, said the Brier will bring an estimated $20 to $25 million to the city in the form of tourism dollars.

"A big event like that will bring people to the city, to hotels, to restaurants and bars," De Iaco said, adding he expects more than 210,000 people to attend the curling event.

"The curling is amazing, and especially this year, there are a lot of good teams."
Bonnie Bertsch, curling fan

De Iaco said the estimated tourism benefits are largely due to the fact curling is such a popular Canadian sport, especially in the Western provinces.

"We also did campaigning and marketing at bringing people into the city. But it's a great event and we did such a good job hosting it last time, too," he added.

It also doesn't hurt to have die-hard fans like Bonnie Bertsch and her husband from Saskatoon, who have travelled to at least nine Briers to date.

"We love it and we go to all of the Western Canada ones. The curling is amazing, and especially this year, there are a lot of good teams," she told Metro.

While her daughter lives in Calgary and it gives them a chance to visit, Bertsch said they don't hesitate to travel to cities where they don't know anyone, either.

"The whole experience is fun and the people are great. It's like a community and you often see the same people," she added.

Calgary Economic Development's director, Adam Legge, said not only will the event attract a lot of money into the city but it will make Calgary an even more recognizable destination.

"This event has significant importance and it gives us exposure and word of mouth. The recognition we can get for hosting is very positive," Legge said.

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Free Daily News Group Inc., operating as Metro Calgary. 120, 3030 - 3 Avenue NE, Calgary, Alberta T2A 6T7. Publisher: Steve Shrout

Mustard housing gets go ahead
The Mustard Seed received final approval from the city planning commission for a 19-storey affordable housing complex in the beltline. The organization is hoping to break ground on the building in the spring of 2010. METRO CALGARY

Local

Library not shushing this noise

Live classical music is filling the halls of the Calgary Public Library this March. University of Calgary music students and faculty will perform on the Central Library main floor every noon hour on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday of March. No registration is required.

METRO CALGARY

Calgary capable of being safer city: Police

Maclean's magazine ranks city as 27th most dangerous

KRISTA SYLVESTER
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Calgary was ranked 27 out of 100 cities as one of the safest in the country, according to a Maclean's article on the most dangerous cities in Canada.

The article shows the country's most dangerous cities as Saskatoon, Winnipeg and Regina, and Calgary ranks 22 spots lower than Edmonton, which ranked fifth most dangerous.

Calgary crime expert Cathy Prowse said she is not surprised by the statistics because Calgary is an affluent city that doesn't have the same socio-economic status as some of the lower cities.

"Our violence tends to come from more gang activity and organized crime than from (poverty)," Prowse said.

"Usually crime rate is correlated to socioeconomic status. Addictions, poverty — it's vicious circle."

She also said some cities with more crime often have a larger transient population, with people drifting from city to city looking for jobs.

"When people aren't anchored into a community it's easier to commit crimes," she added.

Calgary police spokesperson Kevin Brookwell said while they are pleased with the numbers, they still have work to do.

"We won't stop until Calgary is the safest city in the nation. We want to make the city as safe as possible," he said.

Calgary ranked sixth overall for murder rate, a number that Brookwell especially would like to see decreased.

"We have the gang and organized crime activity related to the drug trade and it's something we're going hard at. These criminals have no place on our streets."

FILE PHOTO

Calgary ranked 27th on the Maclean's magazine list of Canada's 100 most dangerous cities. Edmonton ranked fifth in the nation.

News in brief

MRI A new University of Calgary study says there are deficiencies in the Canadian MRI system. The study says there are ways to reduce wait times other than buying more machines. An MRI provides detailed images of the body.

BAR Cowboys can stay in their 11 Ave SE location until the end of 2009, but after that they will need to find a new home, it was announced Thursday. The city will build a 4th Street underpass in its place.

METRO CALGARY

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Video New research shows that television has little effect on young children at **metronews.ca/canada**

Video Family of Greyhound beheading victim furious about "ridiculous" verdict in murder trial at **metronews.ca/canada**

Low budget, high entertainment

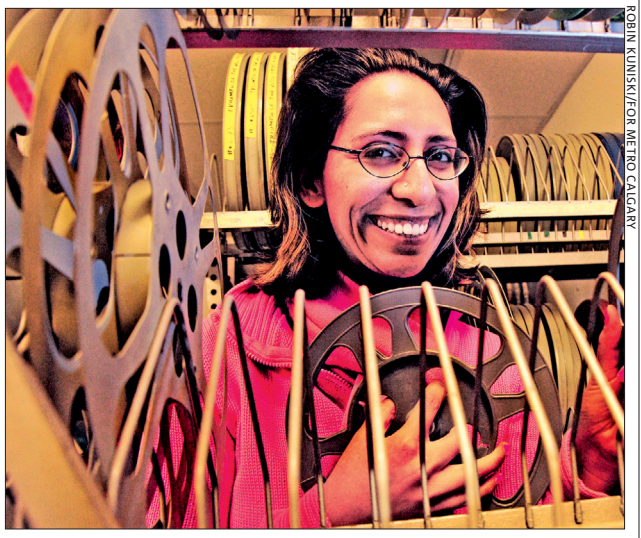
JENNIFER HILLIKER
for Metro Calgary

FILM When Calgarian Doreen Wood decided to produce a movie for the first time, she did it on low-budget Super 8 mm film and shot in Dubrovnik, Croatia.

She never would have made that film, titled I'll Never Let Go of Your Hand, if it weren't for the $100 Film Festival, happening this weekend at the Plaza Theatre in Calgary. The Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers (CSIF) chose Wood as one of 10 Calgarians to make low-budget films for the festival.

"The CSIF mentored me from start to finish," she said.

"I think the festival is really important, especially because we're shooting on Super 8 film and there's not many venues available in North America for that. To have a dedicated group for independent filmmaking in Calgary is wonderful."



ROBIN KUNISKI/FOR METRO CALGARY

Farrah Alladin of the Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers gets the reels ready for the 17th Anniversary of the $100 Film Festival as well as the 30th Anniversary of the Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers March 5-7, 2009 at the PLAZA Theatre.

The $100 Film Festival began in 1992 with a challenge for filmmakers in Calgary to make a film for under $100. Today it is nearly impossible to produce a film for such a low amount, but the concept of low-budget festival films remains the same.

This year's festival features 40 local and international films.

BVC career panel tweets for student prospects

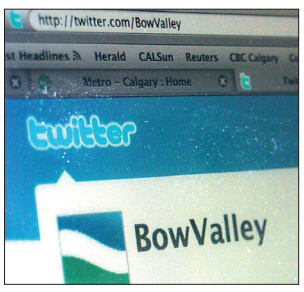
KRISTA SYLVESTER
krista.sylvester@metronews.ca

EDUCATION Even post-secondary facilities use terms like Twittering and Twittersphere and today Bow Valley College is hosting a Twitter Career Exploration Day.

Bow Valley College spokesperson Angela MacIsaac said the school is hosting a career seminar over Twitter, the newest social network site to take the Internet by storm.

"It's a fun and interactive way to share information and education with a social network all over the world," she said.

MacIsaac will be taking Twitter questions today and ask a panel of experts including alumni, faculty and employers in the city, and then relay the information back to Twitter.



People who ask questions will be entered into a draw to win an iPod and Starbucks vouchers, she added.

Web designer Connor Turner, 29, thinks the idea of a seminar through Twitter is a great way to socially engage people.

"I think it's very cool and when done right, Twitter can be a very useful interactive tool for presentations. It gives the audience something to do," he said.

Interested Tweeters can check out Bow Valley College on Twitter between 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

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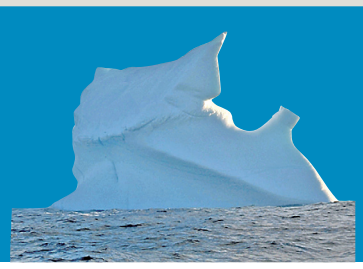
Company insures car payments for unemployed
Privately owned Walkaway, which operates in Canada, sells a form of insurance that takes its customers off the hook in the event of a job loss, allowing consumers to walk away from their car payments. REUTERS

Canada



Arctic melting faster: Expert

The Arctic is warming up so quickly that the region's sea-ice cover in summer could vanish as early as 2013, decades earlier than some had predicted, a leading polar expert said yesterday. Warwick Vincent, director of the Centre for Northern Studies at Laval University in Quebec, said recent data on the ice cover "appear to be tracking the most pessimistic of the models," which call for an ice-free summer in 2013. REUTERS

News in brief

CORPORATIONS More women are cracking the glass ceiling at Canada's largest corporations, but still they remain significantly under-represented in the top ranks. That's the conclusion of a report to be released Friday by Catalyst Inc., a non-profit organization that works to advance opportunities for women.

POLITICS Infrastructure Minister John Baird says critics will just have to trust the government to spend billions of taxpayers' dollars on an economic stimulus wisely. Baird refused yesterday to give a parliamentary committee specifics on how the government plans to spend the $3 billion it says it needs.

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Tags off at EI offices

Laid-off workers getting upset over payment waits

Riding the **Recession**

JESSICA SMITH
for Metro Canada

Some government workers at Employment Insurance offices have taken off their name tags as scores of recently laid-off Canadians are upset over being told their initial EI payments are backlogged.

Jeanette Meunier-MacKay, president of the Canada Employment Immigration Union (CEIU), said her members are informally reporting that at least half of EI claims are taking longer than Service Canada's standard 28 days to be processed.

Claims rise

- EI claims in December were up 16.6 per cent across Canada over the same month in 2007, according to Statistics Canada.

However, the only region the union has statistics for is Atlantic Canada. By the end of February, out of Atlantic Canada's 30,000 outstanding claims, 8,000 were 29 days old or older, and about 2,000 of those were 41 days old or older, according to Jeannie Baldwin, regional vice-president of the Public Service Alliance of Canada, an umbrella union that encompasses the CEIU.

The government has "made significant efforts and investments" to deal with the increased number of EI claims, according to an e-mail sent by media relations on behalf of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

"For instance, we have hired additional staff, redistributed workloads across the country and recalled recently retired processing agents. We have also increased overtime, staff at EI call centres on Saturdays and the automation of claims processing," the e-mail said.

Some people who are waiting for payments are "pretty stressed out and desperate" and cry to civil servants handling their claims, said Meunier-MacKay.

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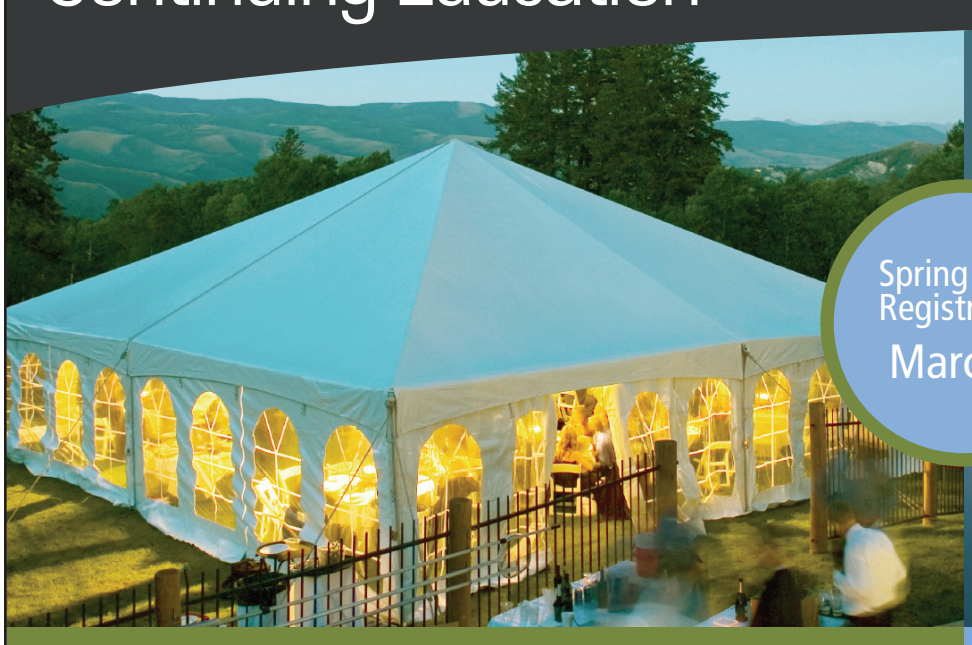

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the Bay

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Juvenile diabetes could be caused by common viruses
New studies provide evidence that common enteroviruses, which normally cause colds or vomiting, may cause childhood diabetes, paving the way for potential vaccines against the condition, researchers said. REUTERS

World

More double mastectomies

More American women with an early form of breast cancer are choosing to have both their breasts removed, according to a new study by researchers at the University of Minneapolis who studied more than 51,000 women with ductal carcinoma in situ. REUTERS

Obama's enemy No. 1: Limbaugh

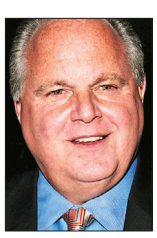
The White House has seen the enemy, and his name is Rush Limbaugh.

U.S. President Barack Obama's team is helping lead an effort to cast Limbaugh, a polarizing, conservative radio-show host, as the Republican party's new face, using campaign-style attacks against a high-profile target.

Democrats are taking advantage of a power void within the Republicans now that George W. Bush has passed from the scene.

The goal is to convince Americans that the party is a shell of its former self and in the grip of its most narrowminded right-wingers, making independents and moderates think twice about switching allegiances.

And Limbaugh, whose daily show has the largest radio talk-show audience in the U.S., is loving it. He is revelling in the chance to generate a wider audience, demanding Obama debate him after saying he hoped Obama fails. "They need a demon to distract and divert from what their agenda is," he declared.


Limbaugh

The White House calculated that Americans would see Limbaugh's attack as out of step with those voters who propelled Obama into office in November's election. REUTERS

Jordan **Victim of violence**

REUTERS / ALI JAREKJI

A woman who was abused by her husband covers her face, so as not to be identified by her family, at the Sisterhood is Global Institute office in Amman Thursday. The non-profit institute aims to further the cause of women's rights worldwide.

News in brief

TRADE U.S. President Barack Obama should not change any of NAFTA's agricultural provisions, despite his promise to renegotiate the pact, Senator Charles Grassley of Iowa said Thursday. He was concerned that Mexico would seek to rebalance tariffs, harming Iowa exports. REUTERS

ICC charges a western ploy for oil, says Bashir

WARRANT Sudan's president told thousands of cheering supporters Thursday an international call for his arrest on war-crimes charges was a ploy by western nations set on grabbing the country's oil.

Omar Hassan al-Bashir, the first sitting president to be charged by the International Criminal Court, responded to his indictment over the conflict in the western Darfur region by ordering 10 foreign-aid agencies to leave Sudan, the centre of the world's largest humanitarian operation

The ICC has no powers of arrest, relying on national police to hand suspects over. Some analysts fear the warrant could further destabilize Sudan. REUTERS

Russia, NATO to resume trade

RUSSIA NATO agreed Thursday to resume formal ties with Russia, which were suspended after Moscow's war with Georgia, in the hopes of winning Russian backing for its struggle to stabilize Afghanistan.

"We can and must find ways to work constructively with Russia where we share areas of common interest, including helping the people of Afghanistan," U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said.

Russia immediately welcomed the move, which was agreed on at a meeting of NATO foreign ministers.

Trade ties to Russia can only formally resume after an April NATO summit. REUTERS

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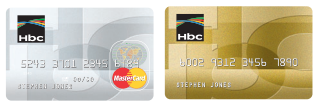

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Comment & Views

Comment

Possible problems of purchasing a pooch

Marketplace

When Michelle Dean bought a Pomeranian puppy, she was expecting a happy, healthy dog. Instead, Michelle ended up with over $10,000 in vet bills. Her puppy had a parasitic infection, needed leg surgery and now, at just three-years-old, is going blind.

The pet store promised Michelle that her puppy was healthy and came from a reputable breeder. But as Michelle found out, dog-buyers should ask plenty of questions before purchasing a pet-store puppy.

Pet stores sometimes give customers assurances by showing them pedigree papers — a sort of family tree for dogs — which suggests the dog is free of genetic defects and has had proper medical checks. But that isn't always the case. Pedigree papers aren't the same as a detailed medical check. If a veterinarian had examined Michelle's puppy, the leg problems might have been detected and Michelle would have known about the problem before buying.

Michelle got the impression from the pet store that her puppy was bred in a home or from a breeder that meets guidelines from the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association. But the CVMA doesn't endorse breeders, and as Michelle found out, her dog certainly didn't come from a warm and wholesome homestead.

On the web

- For some tips to keep in mind when looking for your new best friend, check metronews.ca/mesley

Before being sold in a Canadian pet store, Michelle's puppy came from one of the largest puppy brokers in the U.S. It's called the Hunte Corporation, a massive Missouri facility that buys and sells roughly 90,000 dogs per year.

The real question is where was Michelle's dog bred? It came from a puppy breeder in Missouri with USDA violations. The puppies were raised in a shed that looks like a chicken-coop. And Michelle learned this breeder knowingly sells puppies with back leg problems to some puppy brokers.

None of this is supposed to happen. Fifteen years ago, American and Canadian authorities had promised to crack down on bad breeding. Puppies coming into Canada are apparently checked at the border by veterinarians. However, no one can tell us exactly how many American dogs come into Canada or end up in our pet stores.

Wendy Mesley is a co-host of CBC News: Marketplace, Canada's award-winning consumer affairs show, and a regular back-up host with CBC News: The National. CBC News: Marketplace airs each Friday night at 8:30 p.m. on CBC Television.

Views

Police support of Taser use is no fairy tale

UrbanCompass

Buckle down. We're Tasering up.

The Calgary police now has 363 of the weapons.

As Mayor Dave Bronconnier told us in his state-of-the-city address Tuesday, there are "thugs" in those there streets. "And our police force is going to be given all the resources they need to drive these thugs out of business."

A day later, the Calgary Police Commission speaks up, representing we, the people. "The Calgary Police Commission supports the use of the Taser by front-line officers, and has done so since 2005," chair Denis Painchaud wrote in a daily newspaper.

Honey, er, Mr. Painchaud, a lot has happened since 2005. Tasered victims are dying. And officers thought Tasers were stun guns, not lethal weapons.

There isn't a Canadian civilian alive who thinks some poor sod of a ranting immigrant deserved to be Tasered by RCMP officers at a Vancouver airport for threatening well-protected officers with a stapler!

After hearing testimony this week observers reacted with such disdain, they were cautioned by the inquiry judge.

Things aren't looking great in the Taser court of public opinion.

So the Calgary Police Commission defends Tasers. We learn that, in one month alone, officers Tasered two who tried to commit suicide (now that's a way to jolt some zest for life), those in a bar fight, and others who swarmed officers.

Do we feel better knowing, police must submit a "subject behaviour-officer response report." Or that the reports are "carefully scrutinized by commission members."

It's true that few of us know the fear of a confrontation like police do. But technology has a downside: Texting while driving, impregnating 60-year-olds, Tasering Canadians, mainly poor ones, and killing them.

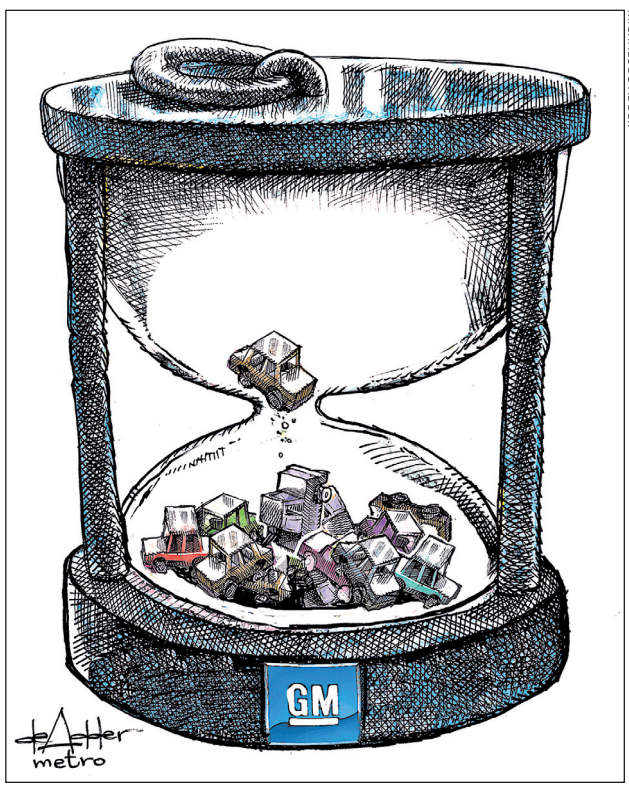
I don't think the police commission should be taking a position on Tasers.

The jury is still out on the weapons. Our police commission could use similar restraint.

"Fairy tales are horrible stories we tell our children to prepare them for ... the newspaper," Mayor Bronconnier said this week.

Indeed.

Janice Paskey teaches journalism at Mount Royal College, serves on her community association board and is a proud mom to two boys; calgaryletters@metronews.ca.



MICHAEL DE ADDER

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: calgaryletters@metronews.ca
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Coke pays '08 CEOs $4.5M bonuses

Coca-Cola Co. paid Neville Isdell and Muhtar Kent, who each served six months as chief executive last year, $4.5-million US bonuses that were purely discretionary, according to a regulatory filing. Executive bonuses for this year will be based on 2009 earnings per share and volume growth. **REUTERS**

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

Business in brief

AIG U.S. regulators failed to spot how much risk insurer AIG was piling on, and by the time they understood, they had no choice but to pour in tens of billions of public dollars, officials said yesterday.

BANKRUPTCY Magna Entertainment Corp. said yesterday it has filed for bankruptcy protection in the United States and has sought court recognition of that status in Canada. **REUTERS**

GM viability in doubt

General Motors Corp. yesterday said its auditors had raised "substantial doubt" about its ability to survive outside bankruptcy if it fails to stem its losses and stop burning cash.

The "going concern" warning from the automaker had been expected, but underscored the stakes for GM as it seeks up to $30 billion US in government aid in the United States to restructure outside a bankruptcy process.

GM's shares fell 17 per cent to $1.82 on the New York Stock Exchange as investors reacted to the news.

GM said its creditors had agreed to waive a requirement that could have allowed them to force the automaker to repay more than $6 billion in loans because of the warning in order to allow GM to press its case for government aid.

The automaker had warned late last month that it expected auditors Deloitte & Touche would question its viability after it reported a loss of nearly $31 billion for 2008.

The disclosures came in GM's delayed annual report to U.S. securities regulators and a 25-page discussion of the risks facing the automaker. **REUTERS**

CAW talks

- The Canadian Auto Workers union said yesterday it will begin exploratory discussions with GM to find cost savings to help the company qualify for government loans.

Credit, debit card probe approved

FINANCE A House of Commons committee agreed yesterday to launch a probe of the credit and debit card industries, a move critics say will pressure the federal government to regulate Canada's payments industry.

Liberal MP Anthony Rota convinced the standing committee on industry, science and technology to undertake a study of credit card interchange fees and the debit payment system. The committee plans to make recommendations that could serve as the basis for future legislation.

Rota said the catalyst for his motion was the Interac Association's desire to become a for-profit entity — an idea that critics say will lead to higher fees for businesses and consumers.

He said it is also vital to investigate interchange fees — the behind-the-scenes cost that banks charge each other to conduct a transaction — because they can be passed on to consumers. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

1 in 8 homeowners in trouble in U.S.

HOUSING About one in eight U.S. homeowners with mortgages, a record share, ended 2008 behind on their loan payments or in the foreclosure process as job losses intensified a housing crisis spawned by lax lending practices, the Mortgage Bankers Association said yesterday. **REUTERS**

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Avery returns
Sean Avery returned to NHL action yesterday night in the Rangers' 4-2 win against the Islanders. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Holy Olli!

NHL RESULT

Flames 5 Flyers 1

VS

LAURENCE HEINEN
for Metro Calgary

THE SKINNY: Calgary jumped out to a quick 4-0 lead in the first period and held on to win its sixth-straight road game to improve to 39-19-6. The Flames are now 10 points ahead of the Vancouver Canucks for top spot in the Northwest Division.

NEW FACES: Acquired in a trade deadline deal on Wednesday, centre Olli Jokinen scored two goals, including the game winner, and was named the game's first star. Fellow newcomer Jordan Leopold also found the back of the net after being reacquired by the Flames from the Colorado Avalanche.

BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

Olli Jokinen scores his second goal of the game against Antero Niittymaki Thursday in Philadelphia.

THE QUOTE: "All the guys worked hard and it was just easy to fit in," Jokinen told Flames Pay-Per-View, while crediting captain Jarome Iginla for setting him up for an easy tap-in goal for his first as a Flame. "He made an unbelievable pass there."

THE BIG SAVE: With Jokinen looking for his hat trick early in the third, Biron made a great glove grab to thwart the new Calgary sniper.

THE NEXT GAME: Calgary's marathon seven-game road trip continues tonight (5 p.m. MST, Sportsnet, Fan 960) when the Flames visit Raleigh, N.C., to face the Carolina Hurricanes.

Hoping for a Dooms day

LAURENCE HEINEN
for Metro Calgary

MMA Jason "Dooms" Day will have his hands full when fighting Kendall "Da Spyder" Grove at UFC 96 tomorrow in Columbus.

Flashy nicknames aside, Day predicted that his bout against Grove should be a quick one either way.

"It should be a good, hard fight," said Day, who moved to Calgary from Lethbridge last September to prepare for the fight.

"I see it ending in knockout or a submission. I'm a high-pressure kind of fighter. I don't hold back."

Day, who has a professional record of 17-6, has been in two Ultimate Fighting Championship events so far, going 1-1. He scored a technical knockout in April 2008 over Alan Belcher in front of 22,000 fans at the Bell Centre in Montreal.

"It's a rush. It's an adrenaline high," said Day, who lost by TKO in the first round to Michael Bisping two months later in London, England.

"Over there, the energy was still crazy. Here, the energy was amazing. It was a different feeling having 22,000 people for me as opposed to against me."

This time the six-foot-one, 185-pound fighter will take on one of his toughest opponents yet. Grove, who won the third season of the reality show The Ultimate Fighter, weighs the same as Day, but is five inches taller.

"He's really scrappy," Day said. "He's a tough guy. He doesn't go down easy." Day took up the sport seven years ago and trained out of the Canadian Martial Arts Centre in Lethbridge, where an onlooker gave him his "Dooms" Day nickname.

"It grew on me," said the 29-year-old native of Fort MacLeod, who has since moved to Calgary to train with Brian Bird, a black belt in Brazilian Ju-Jitsu. "He's sharpening up my ground skills."

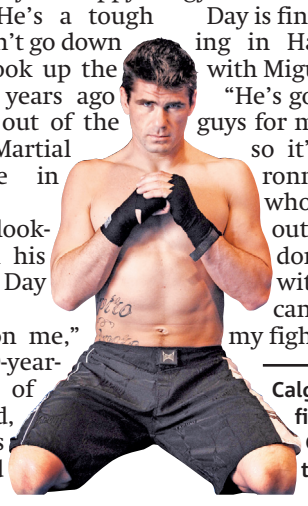
Day also credited Calgary-based trainers Eric DeGuzman and Tanya Lee for preparing him for his upcoming fight.

"Calgary's solid," Day proclaimed. "I fell in love with the city. It has everything I need.

"I surrounded myself with really good people there, so I have good energy."

Day is finishing his training in Hammond, Ind., with Miguel Torres.

"He's got a ton of great guys for me to train with so it's a good environment," said Day, who's tried to cut out distractions. "I don't have to deal with anything. I can just focus on my fight."



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Home Phone Lines: * VoIP 911 has certain limitations versus traditional 911. The rate of $14.95 is based on a 2 year term. [1] The option to keep your existing phone number may not be available in all areas. Long Distance: Comwave guarantees to match or beat your rate today and forever. Rate Guarantee is based on competitors' lowest advertised rate or written quote for like services. Terms and conditions apply. Please see www.comwave.ca for full details. Calls to overseas mobile phones may be billed at a higher rate. [2] The $25 coupon will be mailed and must be returned for credit to be applied to account. 1 year term required. [3] Credit for monthly fee will be applied to third month's invoice. Unlimited Canada does not include calls to the Yukon and N.W.T.

Opportunity knocks

Boys and Girls Clubs of Calgary is looking for volunteers to share their hobbies — dancing, hiking, cooking, reading, and more — with young people between the ages of three and 18. To apply, email fferrara@bgcc.ab.ca. Hundreds of other volunteer opportunities available at volunteercalgary.ab.ca. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Community Spirit

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA

Artwork draws volunteers

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Great art mixes with great hearts at Timeraiser events across Canada, proving that the greatest thing you can give is yourself.

Since launching in 2002, Timeraiser has raised more than 41,000 volunteer work hours and $235,000 for volunteer organizations across Canada by holding events where would-be volunteers get to bid hours of their time instead of money to win great pieces of original art by local artists.

Anil Patel, executive director of Timeraiser, says that alongside the art auction, the events are a way to expose potential volunteers to as many organizations as possible, maximizing the chance that agencies and volunteers will find the perfect match.

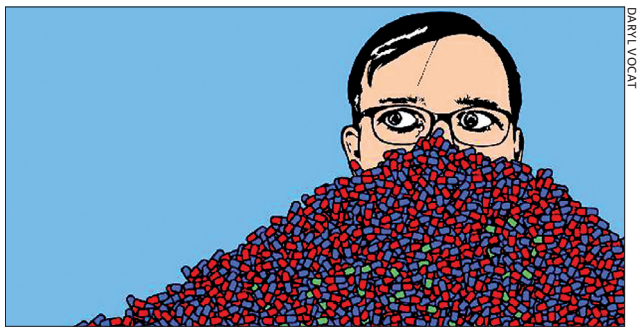
"It's like speed dating for volunteers," Patel said.

Attendees range across all professions, from investment bankers to teachers. Timeraiser pays artists fair market value for their work ensuring they benefit just as much as the volunteers and organizations who show up.

"(Timeraiser is) like speed dating for volunteers."
Anil Patel

The winning bid for each work of art tends to average 100 hours or more. Statistics Canada estimates most regular volunteers donate 168 hours, showing that events like Timeraiser can bring out the best in people perhaps not used to volunteering.

"Often the people that come have not been asked to volunteer in some time — I think they probably have just not been asked the right way before," Patel said.



DARYL VOCAT

ADAM LODZINSKI

Art to be auctioned at Toronto's Timeraiser event include The Hardest Thing In the World Is To Live In It, by Daryl Vocat, above, and Cone Flower, by Adam Lodzinski.

Calgarians will get their chance to donate their time when Timeraiser comes to the Flames Central event venue in downtown Calgary on June 14. Patel hopes each event will raise at least 6,500 volunteer hours and at least 25 agencies in each city are expected to attend.

Patel hopes events like Timeraiser can inspire people across Canada to leave a greater "civic footprint" by creating positive change in their own communities.

"I hope Timeraiser gets people together and allows people to think of civic engagement in a new way. We want to elevate the philanthropy bar to the next level," Patel said.

What is National Volunteer Week?

National Volunteer Week, which takes place April 19-25, is meant to spread awareness about volunteering as well as get more people to donate their time.

The event has a long history, originally starting just after the Second World War as a way of recognizing the efforts of female volunteers during the war. Since then, the annual campaign has branched out to recognize and celebrate the efforts of all of Canada's estimated 12 million volunteers.

This year, Volunteer Canada wants people to celebrate their passion for volunteering by sharing their volunteer experiences with the world. Members of the public can upload photos and videos showing how they volunteer at volunteer.ca/nvm.

Karen Franco, communications director for Volunteer Calgary, hopes National Volunteer Week reminds Canadians that volunteers are always welcome and needed.

"Just because an organization isn't asking for you at this moment, it doesn't mean they don't need you," Franco said.

— RAFAEL BRUSILOW

BREW SOME GOOD WEEK

BE REWARDED

Maxwell House is inviting all Canadians to inject a little good into your day. Get spotted performing a random act of good during Brew Some Good Week, March 2 – 8, and be rewarded instantly!

BREW SOME GOOD **TODAY**

Look for the **Maxwell House** Brew Gooders Team here:

- Stephen Avenue
- TD Centre
- Scotia Centre
- Bankers Hall
- Eaton Centre
- Chinook LRT
- Empire Theatre Shaw

Now roasted with premium quality 100% Arabica beans.

Be inspired at brewsomegood.ca

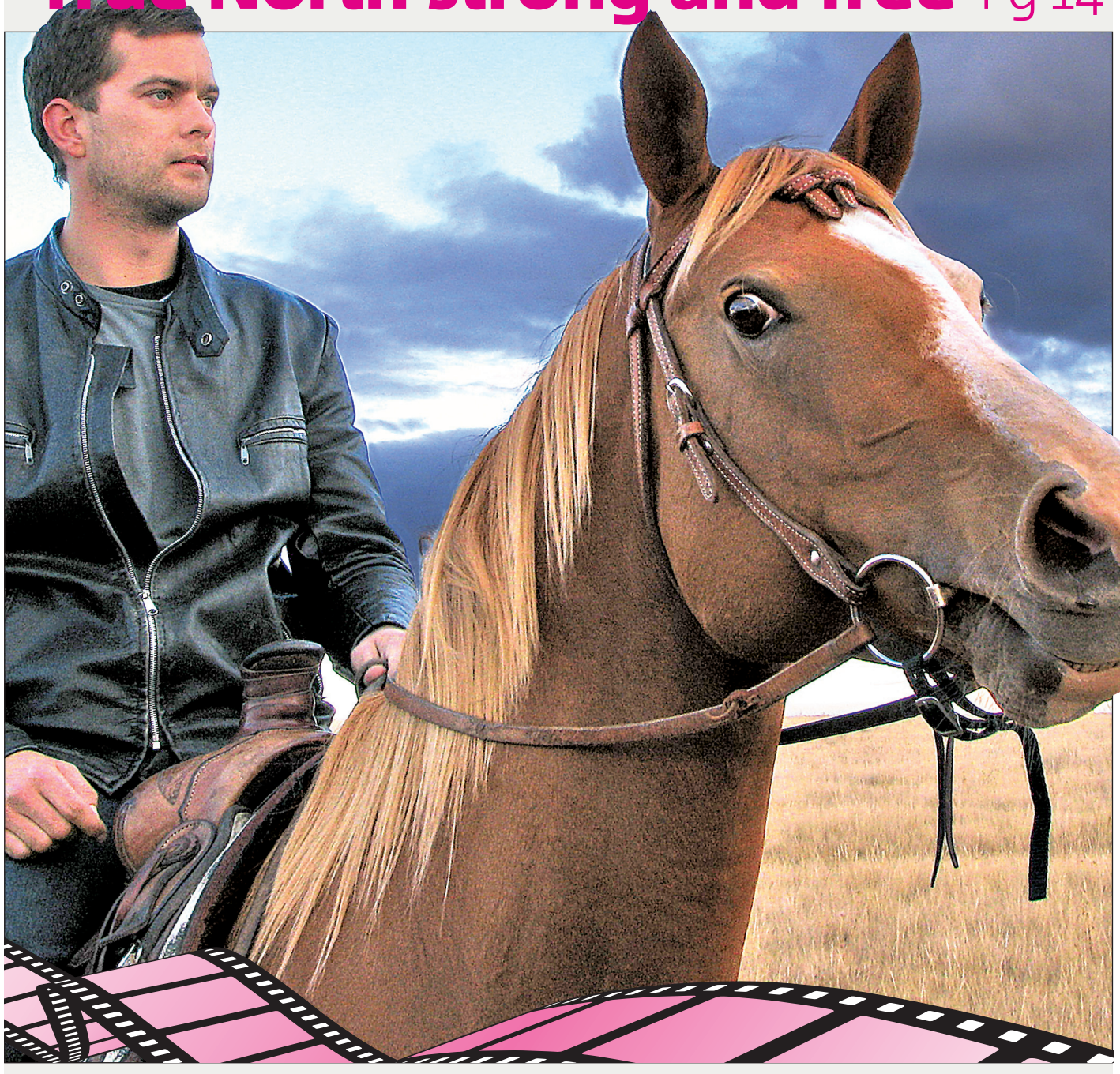
Visit metronews.ca/movies to get showtimes, watch trailers and read reviews.

Movies&Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Movies

True North strong and free Pg 14

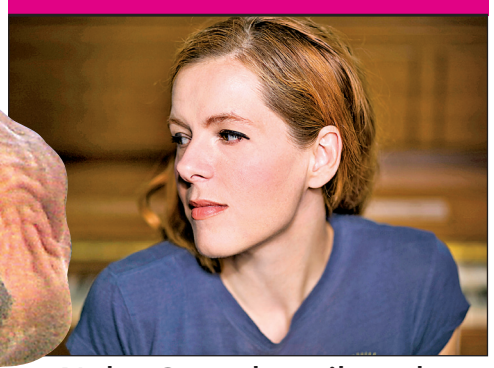


One Week is your typical road trip flick but the humble practicality of it all is patently Canadian and diverges joyously from other Hollywood productions of the genre. Joshua Jackson and the film's cinematographic scope are both wonders to be seen.

movies Pg 14

Watchmen big, ballsy and sometimes overwhelming.

music Pg 18



Neko Case describes the Canadian twang in her tunes.

7th heaven Pg 19

PS3's latest sci-fi battlefield one of the most realistic.

Man convicted in killing of Harry Potter actor

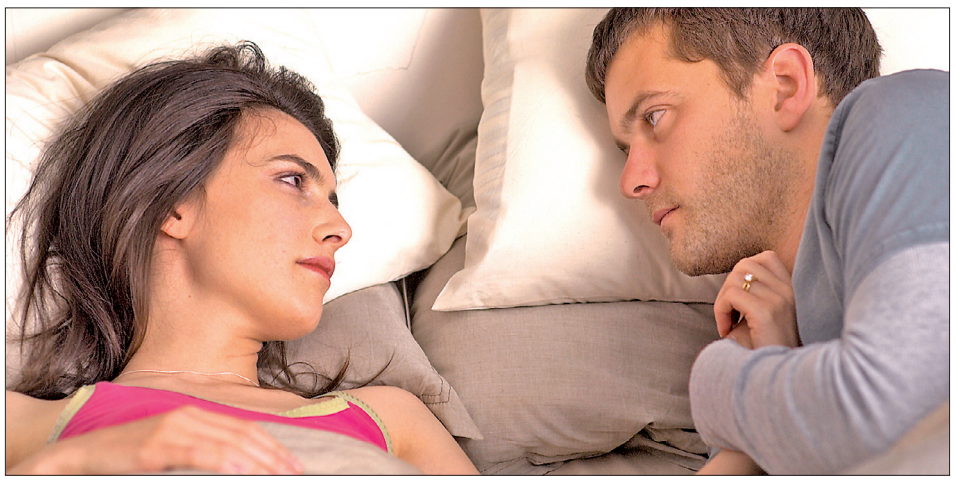
The killer of 18-year-old Harry Potter and The Half-Blood Prince actor Rob Knox was convicted Wednesday in London's Old Bailey court of stabbing Knox and four friends in May 2008. PEOPLE.COM

Canadian Week charming

One Week

Director: Michael McGowan
Stars: Joshua Jackson, Liane Balaban
Classification: PG
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

ROBYN YOUNG
for Metro Canada



Liane Balaban and Joshua Jackson star in the Canadian film One Week.

One Week, starring Joshua Jackson, is a triumphant little film that neither flaunts the fact it is Canadian nor tries to conceal it.

From Toronto to Tofino, B.C., the cinematography reveals the country's true beauty in modest, Canuck fashion that is not overdone but reminds you why it's so much better to live here than anywhere else.

When Ben Tyler (Jackson) learns he's dying from an aggressive form of cancer and has little time left to live, he hops on a motorcycle he purchased on his way home from the doctor's office and heads west.

He leaves his practical and adoring fiancée Samantha Pierce (Liane Balaban of New Waterford Girl) behind and hits the road.

The 20-something Toronto English teacher figures he's going to die anyway and wants to hold off on the inevitability of agonizing treatment for as long as he can.

Jackson delivers an award-worthy performance and develops a character that is simultaneously pensive and sombre, reckless and joyful as he grapples with the reality of his death sentence.

One moment he shudders in tears and anger at the side of the road after his bike breaks down; the next he performs a ridiculous "happy dance" after surviving a wipeout without so much as a scrape.

On the web

- To find out the screen times for One Week, visit metronews.ca/movies

Writer and director Michael McGowan ensures the protagonist is neither hero nor victim and Campbell Scott's narration of the journey adds flow and insight to Ben's character.

And although it's your typical road trip flick, the humble practicality of it all is patently Canadian and diverges joyously from other Hollywood productions of the same genre.

Tying it all together are the country's ubiquitous "world's biggest" landmarks Ben visits on his quest to find meaning including Sudbury's Big Nickel and Medicine Hat's giant Teepee. He also meets a variety of interesting characters along the way like The Tragically Hip's frontman Gordon Downie and Halifax singer/songwriter Joel Plaskett.

The film is a piece of Canadiana to be proud of that showcases the country's diversity and majestic scenery while following a universal and touching story about life and death.

Watchmen bold but bewildering

Watchmen

Director: Zack Snyder
Stars: Jackie Earle Haley, Billy Crudup
Classification: 18A
Rating: ⊕⊕⊕½

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

On the web

- For photos, trailer and screen times for Watchmen, visit metronews.ca/movies

REVIEW Fanatics of Alan Moore's groundbreaking graphic novel Watchmen hold the text in such pious geek reverence that bringing the property to the big screen has been nothing short of intimidating.

And yet, finally, after two decades of hand changing, here it is in all its big, bloody and ballsy allegorical glory. The grim, noir laced phantasmagoria of faded superheroes and the various inter-personal demons they battle is, under the guidance of 300 director Zack Snyder, a decidedly faithful adaptation.

And while it will no doubt please most of those fickle panel-framed fans, the uninitiated might find it all a bit overwhelming.

Watchmen paints an abstract portrait of a world teetering on the brink of destruction. It's 1985: Nixon is in his third presidential term and cold war tensions between Russia and the U.S. are at an all time high. Nuclear annihilation appears imminent.

In the peripheral of this volatile alternate reality lurks a handful of aging and deeply troubled former costumed vigilantes who, after one of their brethren is murdered, begin banding back together to save themselves and the planet they once swore to protect. But all is not what it seems in this weird world and the lines between good and evil are anything but defined.

Watchmen is a major work of dark fantasy, throbbing with intellect and oozing retro/futurist style. It might be the boldest genre hybrid since Blade Runner, but it's also jarringly episodic, confusing and occasionally, dramatically inert.

Performances run hot (Jackie Earle Haley is magnetic as the psychotic Rorschach) and cold (Billy Crudup's digitally tweaked reading of the superhuman and super endowed Dr. Manhattan leaves much to be desired) but from the jaw-dropping opening credits on down, this is Snyder's show, a tonal tour de force.

Carell joins Hi-t comedy
Steve Carell has signed on to star in Hi-t, a new comedy for Warners. In the film, Carell's character suffers an injury which leaves him requiring regular injections of testosterone, causing him to suffer extreme mood swings as a result. **EMPIREONLINE.COM**

Rock solid family guy

Action hero in G territory with Witch Mountain

STEVE GOW
for Metro Canada

Movie **feature**

Shortly after he starred in the Disney hit The Game Plan, Dwayne Johnson made a full conversion from winning championship belts and grappling with greased-up gladiators in a wrestling ring, to stealing the title of King of the Family Comedy.

Now, with no less than two family-friendly films about to come out, the former WWE champ — known as The Rock — won't admit it's a sign he's gone soft.

"It just so happens that I've been offered these roles and they happen to be in a family setting," admitted Johnson during a recent interview in Las Vegas.

"I also love the idea that if you're going to make a family movie and you do it right, then there's a character on screen that every member of the family can relate to."

First up for families is Race to Witch Mountain (in theatres next Friday), a reimagining of Disney's 1975 classic Escape to Witch Mountain. In this family adventure, Johnson plays a cab driver who escorts a pair of strange teens with paranormal powers in their quest to save the world. It's a thrilling tale that delves into the mysteries of UFOs and extraterrestrials — a phenomenon Johnson believes in.

"I'd be arrogant to think that we are the only life forms out there," said the actor who researched the subject prior to filming. "When you see this footage and you delve deep into that culture, I've got to contest that you'd be really amazed at what you find.

"I do believe there are other life forms out there. I've never actually seen an alien but I was a big believer before the movie ... and a big believer after."

The one-time WWE champion will next be starring in The Tooth Fairy — a comedy about a belligerent hockey player who is forced to become the mystical magic wand-waving title character.

Dwayne Johnson, a.k.a. The Rock, plays a cab driver in the family-friendly Race to Witch Mountain.

Che as epic as it gets

Che
Director: Steve Soderbergh
Stars: Benicio Del Toro, Catalina Sandino Morenao
Classification: STC
Rating:

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

REVIEW Arguably the most divisive movie of the 2008 festival circuit, Che makes its Calgary debut — but not in the format the filmmakers originally intended.

While the full-version of Che is a full 4.5-hour beast, unleashed on audiences with only a brief intermission to curb the butt-numbing in other cities, the film is being shown in two parts in Calgary.

The first part of Steven Soderbergh and Benicio Del Toro's impressive work begins playing today, while the second part will hit Calgary theatres on March 13.

Che is a biopic mercifully free of cliché, telling the story of the world's most infamous T-shirt icon in a manner befitting of his incredible achievements and tragic failures.

The first part of the film gives audiences the Che Guevara movie they'd expect. Filmed in vibrant colours and rich monochromatic black and white, the first chapter tells the story of Guevara's triumphant involvement in the Cuban revolution.

It's an inspiring film that will leave the audience smiling.

Soderbergh starts shooting the second part — for those who go to see Che, Part 2 — in drained colours and a less flamboyant style, making it clear from the first frame that something is very wrong.

The second film then follows Guevera's failed attempt to bring the revolution to Bolivia, leading to a tragic finale.

Cineplex | Empire | Landmark | Independent

Screen Times

This week's new releases are highlighted in pink.

THESE PAGES COVER MOVIE START TIMES FROM FRI., MARCH 6 TO THURS., MARCH 12. TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. COMPLETE LISTINGS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT METRONEWS.CA/MOVIES.

CANYON MEADOWS
Bay 110 13226 Macleod Trail, 403-670-5444

Australia (PG) Fri-Thu 5:10-8:40
Bedtime Stories (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:40-7
Bolt (G) Fri-Thu 1:25-4:10-7:20
Defiance (14A) Fri-Thu 3:55-6:55
Frost/Nixon (PG) Fri-Thu 7:10-10
Inkheart (PG) Fri-Thu 1:45-4:20
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:25-7:20-9:50
Marley & Me (PG) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:05-7:10-9:50
New in Town (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:05
Rachel Getting Married (STC) Fri-Thu 7:05-9:45
Seven Pounds (14A) Fri-Thu 9:45
The Tale of Despereaux (G) Fri-Thu 12:50-4
Twilight (PG) Fri-Thu 1-3:55-6:45-9:40
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Thu 9:50
Valkyrie (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-9:55
Yes Man (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4-6:45-9:45

CROWFOOT CROSSING
91 Crowfoot Terrace, 403-547-3316

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:40-6:55-9:25
Coraline (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-3:35
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Thu 7-10
He's Just Not That Into You (PG) Fri-Tue 12:50-3:55-7:05-10:10 Wed 3:55-7:05-10:10 Thu 12:50-3:55-7:05-10:10 Star & Strollers Wed 1
The International (14A) Fri 1-3:50-7:30-10:25 Sat 3:50-7:30-10:25 Sun-Thu 1-3:50-7:30-10:25
Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-2:45-5-7:15-9:30
The Metropolitan Opera: Madama Butterfly (STC) Sat 11
One Week (STC) Fri-Tue 1:10-3:45-6:50-9:40 Wed 3:45-6:50-9:40 Thu 1:10-3:45-6:50-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Thu 12-4-7:10-9:50
Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (14A) Fri-Thu 1:40-4:15-7:40-10:20
Taken (14A) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:25-10:30
Watchmen (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-12:40-3:15-4:30-6:45-8-10:15

EAU CLAIRE MARKET
200 Barlay Parade, 403-263-3166

Che: Part One (14A) Fri 6:20-9:40 Sat-Sun 12-3-6:20-9:40 Mon-Thu 6:20-9:40
The Metropolitan Opera: Madama Butterfly (STC) Sat 11
One Week (STC) Fri 7-10:15 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:45-7-10:15 Mon-Thu 7-10:15
The Reader (18A) Fri 6:40-9:30 Sat 3:30-6:40-9:30 Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:30 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:30
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri 7:10-10 Sat-Sun 12:10-3:20-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 7:10-10
Watchmen (18A) No Passes Fri 6:30-10:10 No Passes Sat-Sun 11:45-3:10-6:30-10:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 6:30-10:10
The Wrestler (14A) Fri 6:50-9:50 Sat-Sun 12:20-3:40-6:50-9:50 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:50

EMPIRE STUDIO 16 COUNTRY HILLS
388 Country Hills Blvd., 403-686-8491

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:10-3:45-7:25-10
Coraline (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:05-3:20-6:35-9:15
Fired Up (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:30
Gran Torino (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-7:05-9:55
He's Just Not That Into You (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:50-7:20-10:10
Hotel for Dogs (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:10-2:45
The International (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 9:30
Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-2:30-4:30-7:10-9:45
Milk (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:15-4:25-7:15-10:05
One Week (STC) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:40-4:10-6:40-9:25
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:20-3-6:30
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-6:55
Push (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 7:30-10
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:50-4:15-6:50-9:40
Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:40-2:50-7:40-10:05
Taken (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:55-4:20-6:45-9:35
Watchmen (18A) No Passes, SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-1:30-2-4-5-6:30-8-9-9:55

EMPIRE STUDIO 10 MACLEOD TRAIL
100-16061 MacLeod Trail, 403-974-0470

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:45-4:20-7:20-9:50
Coraline (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:45-4
Gran Torino (14A) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 6:40-9:30
He's Just Not That Into You (PG) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12-3:20-7:10:10
Hotel for Dogs (G) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1-3:40
The International (14A) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 7:10-9:55
Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience in Disney Digital 3D (G) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 1:30-4:30-7:15-9:20
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Tue 1:10-3:50-6:45-9:10 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Wed 1:10-3:50-10:05 DTS Digital, Stadium Seating Thu 1:10-3:50-6:45-9:10
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 12:30-3:30-6:50-9:40
Taken (14A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:30-10:15
Watchmen (18A) SR Dolby Digital, Stadium Seating, No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-1:30-2-4:15-6:30-8-10

GLOBE CINEMA
617-8 Avenue, 403-262-3308

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri 7:15 Sat-Sun 1:30-7:15 Mon-Thu 7:15
Stone of Destiny (PG) Fri 7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1-3:15-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 7-9:15

MOVIEDOME
1039 999 36 St., 403-248-2000

Bedtime Stories (G) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:45-6:50-9:50
Bolt (G) Fri-Thu 1-3:50-6:40
The Day the Earth Stood Still (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-7-9:45
Delhi 6 (PG) Fri-Thu 9:15
Inkheart (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:40-6:55-10
Last Chance Harvey (PG) Fri-Thu 7-9:55
Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa (G) Fri-Thu 1:05-4
Marley & Me (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:40
My Bloody Valentine 3D (18A) Fri-Thu 7:05-10:05
The Tale of Despereaux (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:55
Twilight (PG) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:35-6:45-9:35
The Uninvited (14A) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:05-7:10-10:10

SCOTIABANK CHINOOK
6455 MacLeod Trail, 403-212-8994

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Wed 12:45-3:45-6:50-9:30 Thu 3:45-6:50-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Coraline (PG) Fri-Thu 12-2:30-5-7:30-10:15
Fired Up (14A) Fri-Tue 1:20-4:25-7:30-10:30 Wed 1:20-4:25-10:30 Thu 1:20-4:25-7:30-10:30
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Thu 10:05
Gran Torino (14A) Fri-Thu 7:15-10:15
He's Just Not That Into You (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:50-7:05-10:20
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Thu 12:05
The International (14A) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:10-7:10-10:10
Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:30-2:40-4:45-7-9:20
The Metropolitan Opera: Madama Butterfly (STC) Sat 11
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:20-7:20
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:30-4:50
Push (14A) Fri 1:15-4:05-7:20-10:25 Sat 4:05-7:20-10:25 Sun-Thu 1:15-4:05-7:20-10:25
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Wed 1-4-7:25-10:25 Thu 4-7:25-10:25 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:35-5:05-7:35-10:20
Taken (14A) Fri-Thu 1:10-4:10-7:10-9:50
Watchmen (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 11:45-1-3:10-4:30-6:45-8-10:10 No Passes Fri-Thu 12:15-3:45-7:15-10:45
Watchmen: The IMAX Experience (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-3:30-7-10:30

PLAZA THEATRE
1133 Kensington Rd., 403-283-3636

Downstream (STC) Mon 7-9:30
Eddies: The Documentary (STC) Sat 3
Film Festival (STC) Fri-Sat 7
Let the Right One In (18A) Fri 4:10 Sat 11 Sun 4:10-9:30 Mon 4:10 Tue-Wed 4:10-9:30 Thu 9:30
Passchendaele (14A) Sun 6:30
The Strangest Dream (STC) Sun 12
View From a Grain of Sand (STC) Tue 7
Welcome to the Sticks (PG) Fri 9:15 Sat 12:30-9:15 Sun 2:15 Wed-Thu 7:10

SUNRIDGE SPECTRUM
2555 32nd Street, 403-717-1200

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Thu 12:50-3:45-7:10-9:50
Coraline (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-3:15-6:40-9:30
Fired Up (14A) Fri-Thu 12:15-2:45-6:55
Friday the 13th (18A) Fri-Thu 9:55
He's Just Not That Into You (PG) Fri-Thu 12:25-3:35-6:50-10:10
Jag Jeondeyan de Mele (in Punjabi) (PG) Fri-Thu 12:05-3:50-7:30
Jonas Brothers: The 3D Concert Experience in Disney Digital 3D (G) No Passes Fri-Thu 12:10-2:40-5-7:25-9:45
The Metropolitan Opera: Madama Butterfly (STC) Sat 11
Paul Blart: Mall Cop (PG) Fri-Tue 1-3:40-6:35-9:15 Wed 3:40-6:35-9:15 Thu 1-3:40-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Push (14A) Fri 12:35-3:25-6:45-9:40 Sat 3:25-6:45-9:40 Sun-Tue 12:35-3:25-6:45-9:40 Wed 3:25-6:45-9:40 Thu 12:35-3:25-6:45-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Thu 12:55-3:55-7:15-10:15
Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun-Li (14A) Fri-Thu 12:20-3:05-7:20-10
Taken (14A) Fri-Thu 12:40-3:20-7:05-9:35
Watchmen (18A) No Passes Fri-Thu 12-12:45-2-3:30-4:30-6:30-7-8:15-10:05-10:30

THE UPTOWN
612 8th Ave., 403-265-0120

Brand Upon the Brain (14A) Fri 7
Doubt (PG) Fri 4:50 Sat-Sun 12:10-4:50-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:50-7:15
Milk (14A) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 12-2:25-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
Revolutionary Road (14A) Fri 4:40-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:15-4:40-9:15 Mon-Thu 4:40-9:15

WESTHILLS 10
165 Stewart Green, 403-246-5291

Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-3:15-6:50-9:25 Mon-Thu 5:10-7:50
The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG) Fri-Sun 7:55 Mon-Thu 8:25
He's Just Not That Into You (PG) Fri 12:25-3:40-7:15-10:10 Sat 3:40-7:15-10:10 Sun 12:25-3:40-7:15-10:10 Mon-Thu 5-8
Hotel for Dogs (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-4:10 Mon-Thu 5:40
The Metropolitan Opera: Madama Butterfly (STC) Sat 11
One Week (STC) Fri-Sun 12:20-3-7:25-9:50 Mon-Thu 5:05-7:40
The Pink Panther 2 (PG) Fri-Sun 12:05
The Reader (18A) Fri-Sun 1:10-4:20-7:10-10 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:30
Slumdog Millionaire (14A) Fri-Sun 1-3:55-6:45-9:40 Mon-Thu 6-8:40
Taken (14A) Fri-Sun 1:20-4-7:40-10:20 Mon-Thu 6:10-9
Watchmen (18A) No Passes Fri-Sat 12-12:50-3:30-4:30-7-8:10-10:30 No Passes Sun 12-12:50-3:30-4:30-7-8:10 No Passes Mon-Thu 4:50-5:30-8:10-8:50

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The bestselling albums at Amazon.ca
1. No Line on the Horizon, U2; **2.** Slumdog Millionaire soundtrack; **3.** Raising Sand, Robert Plant & Alison Krauss; **4.** Astral Weeks: Live at the Hollywood Bowl, Van Morrison. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Music

Cyclone force

Neko Case blends folk, country on new disc

Middle Cyclone, the new album from Neko Case, was released this week.

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

You can't blame anyone for thinking that alt-country songstress Neko Case is Canadian — she recorded parts of her new album in Toronto, she's the main female singer in Vancouver-based power pop band The New Pornographers, she has a degree from a B.C. university — but, and I hate to break it you, she's a full-blooded American.

The Virginia-born singer-songwriter hasn't actually lived in Canada since 1998, but that doesn't mean she doesn't hold the Great White North in high regard.

"It's definitely a huge part of my consciousness," she explains. "When I was a little girl I thought I was Canadian. We lived on the border and only had CBC. I'm American, but I feel like I'm North American."

"When I was a little girl I thought I was Canadian. We lived on the border and only had CBC. I'm American, but I feel like I'm North American."
Neko Case

While Case currently resides on a large farm in Vermont ("I like farms and the wilderness and the trees," she says) she doesn't rule out a return to Canada — but only if our immigration rules change.

"I'm not willing to get married to move somewhere, but if Canada lets me in full time, I would do it," she says on the phone from her U.S. abode.

Until that happens, Canadians can only hope that the red haired guitarist will keep churning out records, both solo and with the New Pornographers, and visiting her other homeland for gigs.

Unfortunately, it took three years for Case to release Middle Cyclone, the follow-up to Fox Confessor Brings the Flood, so don't expect another disc from her for a while. She says it's impossible to release music any faster.

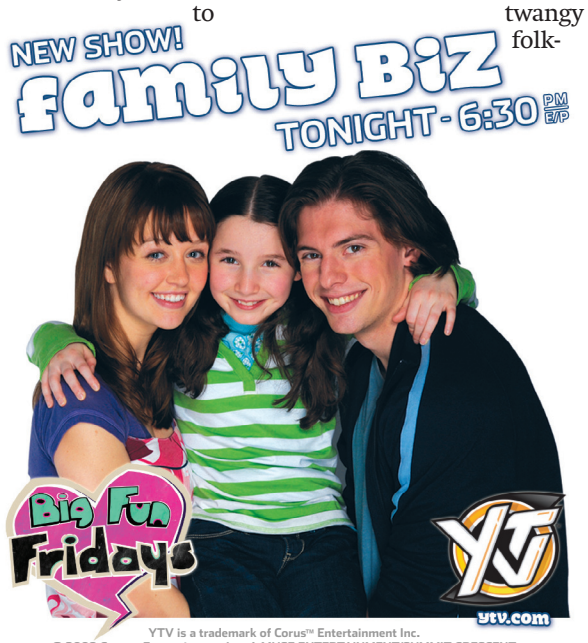
"I have another full-time band," she says. "And I like to keep touring. I like to milk it. I don't work on a schedule, I just record when the Pornographers are done."

Luckily, each solo disc is worth the wait. Her latest delivers another batch of twangy folk-meets-country tracks, each one more infectious than the next. Case says the new disc is about love, but it's not what you think.

"It's not the man-woman relationship song," she says. "I don't think I'm very good at writing those types of tunes. I generally write about situations and characters, or when it's a tornado in love with a person."

She's not kidding, more than one song discusses tornados, while others delve into the relationships between people, nature and animals. Case isn't sure why she was drawn to violent wind storms, but maybe it has something to do with her second home.

"I've been obsessed with tornados and I've always liked nature and animals," she says. "Maybe it's part of my Canadian subconscious. I've got some Canadian in me and I need to let it out."



Edmonton electro group Shout Out Out Out Out dropped their new album Reintegration Time this week.

Shout Out Out Out Out tear up the floor

BRYAN BORZYKOWSKI
for Metro Canada

When I catch Nik Kozub, co-founder of Edmonton electro group Shout Out Out Out Out, on the phone he tells me he's about to go to work. I was confused — isn't he about to release his band's new album? Why's he recording again? He quickly sets the record straight. "I'm mixing my dad's album," he explains. "He brings me to work on his records."

His father, Wilfred Kozub, frontman for Wilfred N & The Grown Men, has been making rock music since the early '80s, and while the two haven't collaborated on a song yet, it's pops that's responsible for his son's love of club beats and synth sounds.

"I grew up around an 808 (a digital drum machine) and a lot of my synths were inherited from my dad," says Kozub.

"A lot of people who have traditionally grown up listening to rock bands are now seeing that dance music is pretty fun."
Nik Kozub of Shout Out Out Out Out

While the E-Town songwriter has made his name twisting knobs and slamming keys with the Shout Outs, his love for everything electronic is a recent development. The band is made up of recovering rockers — Kozub played with Luke Doucet in Veal — so when the six-piece saw their debut disc, Not Saying/Just Saying, receive critical acclaim and a Juno nom they were floored.

"We certainly didn't expect anyone to care," says Kozub. "We started the band as something different and interesting for us as individuals who have played in a bunch of rock and punk bands for years."

Now that the project has turned into a full time job, the group has gotten serious about their new record Reintegration Time. It picks up where their last disc left off — brooding minimalist beats, techno heavy synths and catchy, but not overpowering lyrics.

Getting the sound they wanted this time around wasn't as easy as it was before. The Shout Outs were so careful about crafting the right disc, it took them six months to get it done.

"It took us a lot longer than we thought," says Kozub. "One thing we wanted to do this time around was create a dense and textural disc, with more of a focus on the electronic music side of things."

While it's too early to say whether all the hard work will result in a Juno win this time around, it's a safe bet that more and more fans will flock to these rockers-turned-dance floor fanatics.

"A lot of people who have traditionally grown up listening to rock bands are now seeing that dance music is pretty fun," says Kozub. "But I think for a lot of people they still like to have a live band element. Sure, our band is trying to make full on techno music, but just because we are who we are we can't help but put a live band feel to what we're doing."

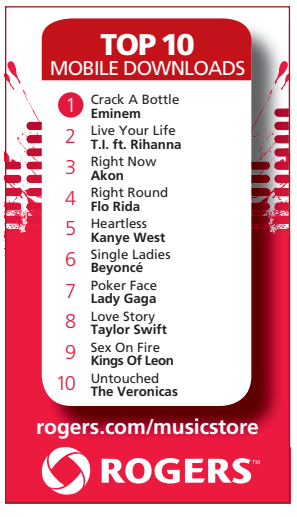
The biggest week in Canadian Music

SoundCheck

Next Wednesday, Canadian Music Week, the biggest, most exhausting and exasperating music festival in the country lands in Toronto. Close to 600 performers from all over the world will showcase their stuff for fans, hipsters, managers, publishers, radio folk, journalists, bloggers, video channels and record weasels. And they'll do it at one of nearly 50 venues over the course of just five nights.

So for those not heading to Toronto next week, I've compiled a list of bands most likley to make some noise at CMW. Watch for them in your town.

- **The Waking Eyes**: This Winnipeg band's albums are very good, but they're best experienced live. They're turning into our own Flaming Lips.
- **Kate Rogers Band**: I've been watching London, Ont.'s Kate Rogers for a while now. Don't be fooled by her gentle acoustic sound. There's some real intensity below the surface.
- **Fred**: A five-piece from Cork, Ireland, of whom not a single member is named Fred. Fun and intelligent pop-rock. Three top 10 hits and a gold record at home, too.
- **Inward Eye**: Laid end-to-end, Winnipeg's Erickson brothers give you more than 20 feet of Who-like awesomeness.



The Ongoing History of New Music can be heard on stations across Canada. Read more at ongoinghistory.com and exploremusic.com

Holly Madison on Dancing With The Stars
US magazine is reporting that Holly Madison is joining the cast of Dancing With the Stars. There is speculation Madison could replace Jewel, who has been struggling with knee problems. **USMAGAZINE.COM**

Television

Mix of Six

HOT & HAPPENING WEEKEND EVENTS AROUND THE CITY
For more great events around the city, visit: **metronews.ca/entertainment**

The Canadian Tenors
When: Friday at 8 p.m.
Where: Jack Singer Concert Hall, EPCOR Centre
The Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra presents an evening of operatic ballads and Italian love songs with the Canadian Tenors. The new Canadian group will perform songs like O Sole Mio and The Pearl Fishers Duet.

Sleepover: Northern Forest
When: Saturday at 7 p.m. to Sunday at 8:30 a.m.
Where: Calgary Zoo
For $55 you can experience the mystery and magic of sleeping in the Cequel Energy Lodge at the Calgary Zoo. The evening includes a starlight tour of the Northern Forest, a late night snack and a pancake breakfast.

Carlos del Junco
When: Saturday at 9 p.m.
Where: Bragg Creek Centre
The Cuban-Canadian harmonica player is sure to wow audiences in Bragg Creek with his unique approach to the instrument using a recently-developed "overblow" technique. Tickets are $24 for adults, $20 for seniors and $12 for youth.

Art of Murder
When: Saturday at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m.
Where: Vertigo Mystery Theatre
Vertigo's latest mystery features eccentric painter Jack Brooks, who will let nothing stand in the way of his art, including a crooked art dealer.

Whose Live Anyway
When: Sunday at 7:30 p.m.
Where: Jack Singer Concert Hall, EPCOR Centre
Calgarians are in for 90 minutes of live improv comedy based on the popular TV show, Whose Line is it Anyway? The show features Ryan Stiles, Greg Proops, Chip Esten and Jeff David.

The Jimmy Swift Band
When: Friday at 8 p.m.
Where: Dickens Pub
The four-person band hailing from Halifax combines elements of rock, jam and electronica. Tickets to their show at Dickens Pub are $15.

Metro's 7th Heaven: What's hot right now

1 No Line On The Horizon: U2
ALBUM In the pop culture sphere this week, there's nothing bigger than the 12th full-length effort from the world's biggest band. Critics may be divided over the relevance of the Irish lads but their week-long residency on David Letterman is reasons enough to pay attention.

2 Watchmen
FILM The superhero movie genre takes another leap forward with this dark, existential tale of reluctant vigilantes. True to the spirit of the original graphic novel, the Zack Snyder-helmed film does away with caped crusader niceties.

3 Late Night with Jimmy Fallon
SHOW Conan O'Brien's comic mantle fell on Saturday Night Live veteran Jimmy Fallon, and the Fever Pitch star seems to have rocked the coveted slot. In fact, Fallon beat CBS' Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson by a 35 per cent margin in their first head-to-head clash Monday.

4 Rihanna/Chris Brown
GOSSIP The rumour mills are working overtime to get the juice on the alleged violence between the R&B couple and the reconciliatory aftermath. According to the grapevine, wedding talk is in the air. Next up: Baby news?

5 Killzone 2
GAME This PS3-only showpiece is right on target with its to-die-for visuals, using the console's raw power to the max. Minutely detailed textures, near-perfect explosion effects and impeccable cinematography combine for one of the most realistic sci-fi battlefields ever presented in a game.

6 The Bachelor twist
TV Eligible guy Jason Mesnick proposes to show winner Melissa Rycroft, dumps her a few weeks later and goes for runner-up Molly Malaney. Producers of the reality series tape the "shocker."

7 M.A. on The Beatles
EDUCATION If the Fab Four is your calling, then this new degree program from the Liverpool Hope University might just be the way to go. It may not be the best career move, but hey, that term paper on I Am The Walrus sure sounds like fun.

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FRIDAY 3/6/09

CA	Vu	SC		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	243	317	3 CFCN	etalk	Hollywood	Raising the Bar (N)		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Flashpoint (HDTV) (N)		News (N)
	-	-	4 OMNI	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News		News		The Simpsons	King	Metropia
	-	371	5 KXLY	4 News at 6	4 News at 6:30	Entertainment	The Insider (N)	Wife Swap (N)		20/20 (HDTV) (N)		20/20
	245	306	6 CBRT	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Rick Mercer	Marketplace	CBC News: the fifth estate (N)		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	244	338	7 CICT	ET Canada	Entertainment	NUMB3RS "First Law"		Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It	(10:01) Dollhouse (N)		News Hour
	246	-	8 CKAL	Law & Order: SVU		Man Tracker		Survivorman		Out There	Out There	Your City
	-	372	12 KREM	News (N)	Hollywood	The Doctors (N)		Ghost Whisperer (N)		Flashpoint (HDTV) (N)		NUMB3RS
	-	374	14 KSPS	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer		Wash. Week	McLaughlin	Bill Moyers Journal (N)		Great Performances		
	-	370	16 KHQ	News (N)	Be-Millionaire	Jeopardy! (N)	Wheel-Fortune	Howie Do It (N)	Howie Do It	Friday Night Lights (N)		Dateline NBC
	-	373	22 KAYU	The Simpsons	Raymond	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Sarah Connor Chronicles		(10:01) Dollhouse (N)		News (N)
news	502	390	15 CBC	CBC News: The National		Doc Zone		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		Doc Zone
	500	500	29 CNN	Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				Larry King Live		Cooper 360
	501	391	52 CTV	CTV Newsnet		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
sports	400	400	21 TSN	Basketball	SportsCentre		That's Hockey!	SportsCentre	Off the Record	Boxing Friday Night Fights. (HDTV)		
	408	418	27 net	NHL Hockey	Sportsnet Con.	Flames Week		Baseball World Classic -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) From the Tokyo Dome in Tokyo. (Live)				
family	552	543	20 YTV	iCarly	Family Biz (N)	*Fat Albert* ★★ (2004, Comedy) Kenan Thompson.				Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	Family Biz
	557	541	39 FAM	Zoey 101	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	*Life Is Ruff* (2005, Comedy) Kyle Massey.			*Magic in the Water* ★★ (1995, Fantasy)		
cable variety	-	-	18 CHTV	The Insider (N)	E News	20/20 (HDTV) (N)		20/20 (HDTV)		Friday Night Lights (N)		News (N)
	603	561	25 FOOD	Kylie Kwong	Gourmets	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		Challenge		Kylie Kwong
	615	520	26 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Pro Per"		CSI: Miami
	617	522	32 SHOW	Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Da Vinci's Inquest		Testees	Kenny-Spenny	Webdreams
	520	505	35 DISC	Man vs. Wild "Belize" (N)		Deranged (N)		Daily Planet		Man vs. Wild "Belize"		Project Earth
	628	584	43 SPIKE	DEA (HDTV)		Real Vice	Real Vice	Disorderly Conduct: Video		MANswers	MANswers	GameTrailers
	522	516	45 HIST	Urban Legends	Urban Legends	NCIS		Shockwave		Urban Legends	Urban Legends	Ice Road Trck
	581	566	102 MTV	The Real World		The City	The City	City Live After	Cribs	The Girls of Hedsor Hall		The City

SATURDAY 3/7/09

CA	Vu	SC		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	243	317	3 CFCN	W-FIVE		Law & Order "Chattel"		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Without a Trace (HDTV)		News (N)
	-	-	4 OMNI	Omni News: Mandarin		*This Darling Life* (2008, Documentary)				Trendy Zone	Word for Word	Chinese Rest.
	-	371	5 KXLY	News	Explorer TV	Entertainment Tonight		Funniest Home Videos		Brothers & Sisters "Troubled Waters"		
	245	306	6 CBRT	NHL Hockey		NHL Hockey San Jose Sharks at Vancouver Canucks. (HDTV) (Live)					HNIC -- After Hours	
	244	338	7 CICT	To Be Announced		Masterminds	Masterminds	Brothers & Sisters "Troubled Waters" (HDTV)				News (N)
	246	-	8 CKAL	Without a Trace		Murdoch Mysteries		*Android Apocalypse* (2006, Science Fiction)				The City Show
	-	372	12 KREM	News (N)	Scrubs	A New Smile, a New Life		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Without a Trace (HDTV)		48 Hr. Mystery
	-	374	14 KSPS	Hope and Praise		As Time Goes By Reunion Special (Part 1 of 2)				Bruce Springsteen & the E Street Band		
	-	370	16 KHQ	News (N)	Judge Judy	CSI: NY (HDTV)		The Celebrity Apprentice				Law & Order
	-	373	22 KAYU	House "Cane & Able"		Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Cops (N)	Cops	America's Most Wanted		News (N)
news	502	390	15 CBC	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	CBC News: the fifth estate (N)		Sat. Report	Fortune	Sat. Report	Mansbridge	fifth estate
	500	500	29 CNN	Larry King Live		D.L. Hughley Breaks the News		Newsroom		Larry King Live		D.L. Hughley
	501	391	52 CTV	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
sports	400	400	21 TSN	(6) Curling Tim Hortons Brier -- Draw 2. (HDTV) (Live)				SportsCentre		Winter X-Games Classix		Billiards
	408	418	27 net	(6) Baseball World Classic -- Venezuela vs. Italy.				Sportsnet Connected		Saturday Night Poker		Sportsnet Con.
family	552	543	20 YTV	Kid vs. Kat	League-Evil	Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	*Ferris Bueller's Day Off* ★★★ (1986, Comedy)				Naruto
	557	541	39 FAM	Natural-Sadie	Flight 29 Down	That's-Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	*The Mighty* ★★★ (1998, Drama)		
cable variety	-	-	18 CHTV	Chef School	E News	*Cleaverville* (2007, Suspense) Ever Carradine.				Show Yours	G-Spot	E News
	603	561	25 FOOD	Top Chef		Hell's Kitchen		The F Word		Challenge Chocolate art.		Top Chef
	615	520	26 A&E	(6) *Pearl Harbor* ★★ (2001, War) Ben Affleck.				CSI: Miami (HDTV)		*Pearl Harbor* ★★ (2001, War)		
	617	522	32 SHOW	NUMB3RS "Graphic"		Mutant X		*All the Good Ones Are Married* (2007, Drama) Daryl Hannah.				*Starsky-Hutch*
	520	505	35 DISC	Destroyed	Time Warp	Criss Angel	Criss Angel	Guinea Pig (N)	Guinea Pig	Destroyed	Time Warp	Criss Angel
	628	584	43 SPIKE	(6) *Star Wars IV: A New Hope* (1977, Science Fiction)				Real Vice	Real Vice	Real Vice	Real Vice	Real Vice
	522	516	45 HIST	Fitzgerald		NCIS "Shalom"		Mob Stories		*American History X* ★★★ (1998, Drama)		
	581	566	102 MTV	MTV News	After	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	MTV Live

SUNDAY 3/8/09

CA	Vu	SC		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime	243	317	3 CFCN	Star Wars Clo.	Degrassi: TNG	The Mentalist (HDTV)		The Amazing Race 14		Desperate Housewives		News (N)
	-	-	4 OMNI	Without a Trace		King	King	Bollywood Boulevard		Rom Redux China		Chardi Kalaa
	-	371	5 KXLY	News	Basketball	Funniest Home Videos		Extreme Makeover: Home		Desperate Housewives		Brothers
	245	306	6 CBRT	Heartland (N) (DVS)		*Diverted* (2009, Docudrama) Shawn Ashmore.				CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		Who Do-Think
	244	338	7 CICT	16:9 Picture	King of the Hill	(8:01) Brothers & Sisters (N)		The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Family Guy (N)	American Dad	News (N)
	246	-	8 CKAL	2Half Men	2Half Men	Friends	Hates Chris	Rock of Love Bus		Crusoe		Reviews
	-	372	12 KREM	News (N)		60 Minutes		The Amazing Race 14		Cold Case "Jackals" (N)		The Unit
	-	374	14 KSPS	(6:30) Highland Heartbeat		Great Performances "Hitman: David Foster and Friends"				Visions: The Great Cities of Europe		
	-	370	16 KHQ	News	Best Sports	SNL Game		SNL Just Commercials		The Celebrity Apprentice (N)		
	-	373	22 KAYU	Hole in the Wall (N)		The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Family Guy (N)	American Dad	House		News (N)
news	502	390	15 CBC	CBC News: Sunday Night (N)		*Prodigal Sons* (2008, Documentary)				CBC News: Sunday Night		*Prodigal Sons*
	500	500	29 CNN	Larry King Live		Newsroom		D.L. Hughley Breaks the News		Larry King Live		Newsroom
	501	391	52 CTV	CTV Newsnet-Scott Laurie		News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News	CTV Newsnet	News
sports	400	400	21 TSN	(6) Curling Tim Hortons Brier -- Draw 5. (HDTV) (Live)				SportsCentre		Motoring 2009	Wtr. X-Games	Billiards
	408	418	27 net	(6) Baseball World Classic -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) (Live)				Baseball: World Classic		Sportsnet Connected		Flames in Hour
family	552	543	20 YTV	*How to Eat Fried Worms* ★★ (2006, Comedy-Drama)				Prank Patrol	Prank Patrol	In Real Life		Adrenaline Proj
	557	541	39 FAM	Natural-Sadie	Flight 29 Down	That's-Raven	Zoey 101	Life Derek	Han. Montana	*Stepmom* ★★ (1998, Drama), Ed Harris		
cable variety	-	-	18 CHTV	Inside Hollywood		The Best Years (DVS)		Extreme Makeover: Home		The Celebrity Apprentice (N)		
	603	561	25 FOOD	Iron Chef America		The Next Food Network Star		The Heat	The Heat	Challenge		Iron Chef Am.
	615	520	26 A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		The Sopranos (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami
	617	522	32 SHOW	Wife Swap		The Guard (HDTV)		*Storm Cell* (2008, Drama) Mimi Rogers.				Damages
	520	505	35 DISC	Investigation X (N)		MythBusters		Anthony Bourdain		Investigation X		Investigation X
	628	584	43 SPIKE	UFC Unleashed		Ways to Die	Ways to Die	MANswers	MANswers	MANswers	MANswers	Married... With
	522	516	45 HIST	Battlefield Mysteries		NCIS "Escaped"		The DaVinci Code: Bloodlines		*The Da Vinci Code* ★★ (2006, Mystery)		
	581	566	102 MTV	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	Cribs	After	MTV News	Made "Wakeboarder"		Cribs

Barton set for Melrose Place

Mischa Barton is heading back to TV — she's in negotiations to star in the Melrose Place remake. The former O.C. star has confirmed she is in talks to join the cast of the show. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Entertainment

You've come a long way, Barbie

World-renowned doll turns the big 5-0

JENNIFER YANG
for Metro Canada

In half a century, she's been an astronaut, an Olympian, and a four-time presidential candidate — all while maintaining a perky bod with nary a wrinkle in sight.

Only one woman on earth (albeit not a real one!) is capable of such improbable achievements, and her name is Barbie Millicent Roberts — or, simply, Barbie, as we all know her.

"Barbie's come a long way," said Adriana Gut, Barbie brand manager for Mattel Canada. "What's interesting about her is she's managed to stay really relevant and is truly a reflection of the times."

This Monday, Barbie turns 50 years old, five decades after debuting at the New York Toy Fair in a zebra-print swimsuit. Little girls quickly swooned over the buxom blond and toy maker Mattel sold 300,000 that year, making Barbie both a household name and a household item.

Today, three Barbies are sold every second, according to Mattel. Barbie has also undergone many transformations, with 108 careers on her resume and 50 nationalities on her passport. Her closet has millions of outfits, some designed by the likes of Vera Wang or Christian Lacroix, and her shoe collection is steadily approaching infinity.

Reversible Barbie pendant, $34, by Foxy. Find a store near you or order online at foxyoriginals.com.

And while Barbie has as many critics as she does fans, there's no debating her iconic status. To celebrate her birthday, Mattel Canada collaborated with five Canadian brands to design exclusive product lines, with everything from couches to couture for the modern-day Barbie buff.

Barbie stilettos are also finally available in human size now, thanks to Town Shoes. "Every little girl wanted to fit in to Barbie shoes," said Crissi Giamos, director of public relations.

Barbie clothes, too, will now be human-sized when David Dixon unveils his Barbie-inspired collection at Toronto Fashion Week. "I went 'Barbie clothes for women?' ... and said, 'Yeah, why not?'" Dixon said. "It's allowed me to explore a new avenue with my signature collection."

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Sale stopped
Michael Jackson sued a Los Angeles auction house Wednesday where items from his Neverland estate were to have gone on the block, the Associated Press reports. **PEOPLE.COM**

Celebrity Buzz

Pitt determined to make it right

CHARITY Brad Pitt stepped away from movies yesterday and put his political hat on to meet Nancy Pelosi, America's Speaker of the House, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The movie star is in Washington, D.C. with his partner Angelina Jolie, who is shooting new thriller Salt in the U.S. capital, and Pitt is using his time there to make a political statement.

A spokesman for Pelosi's office states, "They will be discussing (Pitt's) Make it Right, a project launched in 2007 to construct affordable and environmentally sustainable housing for low-income residents of the Lower 9th Ward in New Orleans who lost their homes as a result of Hurricane Katrina."

Pitt has been a big part of the rebuilding process in New Orleans, with his project providing funding for a number of re-housing schemes in the area. He created the Make It Right Foundation New Orleans back in 2006 to finance the re-building of 150 new houses. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Wise words from mom: Stay single

PEOPLE Paris Hilton has been told to stay single by her mother, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The blond beauty has been given some words of wisdom by Kathy Hilton, who believes her daughter feels under pressure to constantly have a boyfriend.

She said: "My dating advice for Paris would be just to take your time. It is OK to be alone. You don't have to always be with someone."

The 28-year-old hotel heiress recently took her latest love interest — Doug Reinhardt from The Hills — home to meet her parents just weeks after splitting from Good Charlotte rocker Benji Madden.

Despite warning her daughter to slow down, Kathy admits Reinhardt was "very nice." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Time apart keeps passion alive, Eva says

MARRIAGE Desperate Housewives star Eva Longoria believes that distance does indeed make the heart grow fonder. She credits the success of her marriage to San Antonio Spurs star Tony Parker to the fact that they spend so much time apart: Her show shoots in L.A., and his team is based in Texas. When they do see each other, "it is a honeymoon, because we only have three days together and we hardly fight because we know we don't have much time," Longoria says, according to Hollyscoop. "All the little things that couples argue about — we let them slide." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Vince engaged

SHOW Vince Vaughn, who's been off the radar since splitting with Jennifer Aniston back in 2006, has reportedly popped the question to girlfriend Kyla Weber, whom he's been quietly dating since last summer.

The Wedding Crashers star asked the Canadian real estate agent to marry him over Valentine's Day, according to Star magazine.

"They spent a romantic weekend together. He dropped to one knee to propose and presented her with a gorgeous $125,000 four-carat diamond set in platinum," a source tells the magazine. "They'll have their wedding either in L.A. or Alberta, and they're both ready to start a family immediately." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Katie's cover shot makes Lohan livid

CAT FIGHT Lindsay Lohan is feuding with Katie Holmes, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

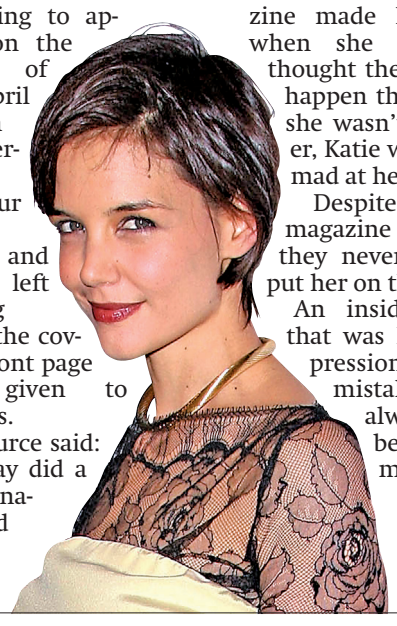
The Mean Girls star was expecting to appear on the cover of the April edition of America's Glamour magazine and was left fuming when the coveted front page was given to Holmes.

A source said: "Lindsay did a Madonna-themed photo shoot and was totally under the impression it would be the cover.

"Her Marilyn Monroe shoot for New York Magazine made her relevant when she did it, she thought the same would happen this time. Only she wasn't on the cover, Katie was, and she's mad at her now."

Despite her gripe, magazine sources insist they never planned to put her on the cover.

An insider said: "If that was Lindsay's impression, it was a mistake. She was always going to be inside the magazine." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Radiohead gives Miley cold shoulder

PEOPLE It looks like not everyone is a Miley Cyrus fan. The 16-year-old Disney star admitted recently to the Vancouver Sun that she was snubbed at the Grammys by Thom Yorke and his band, Radiohead. Not only would the band refuse to come meet her, they wouldn't even let her visit their dressing room.

"But they were like, 'We don't really do that,'" she said. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Franco to release short stories book

PEOPLE Looks like that creative writing graduate program James Franco is enrolled in at Columbia University is paying off. The Spider-Man star nabbed a contract with publisher Simon & Schuster and is set to release a collection of short stories, his rep confirmed to Fox News. There was no word on when the book would be released. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Adele missed Justin moment

MEETING British soul singer Adele had so much on her mind during last month's Grammys — like celebrating her best new artist victory — that she botched a meeting with one of her all-time favorites: Justin Timberlake, people.com reports.

Adele tells the magazine she was overcome with nerves when she came face to face with Timberlake at the ceremony in Los Angeles.

"In the hallway after I'd won two Grammys, he grabbed me and he's like, 'Congratulations,'" she says of the ill-fated encounter. "I was so totally overwhelmed about the Grammys that I didn't even realize it was Justin. Then, 10 yards down the huge hallway in the Staples Center, I just heard this huge scream and realized I was screaming my head off." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

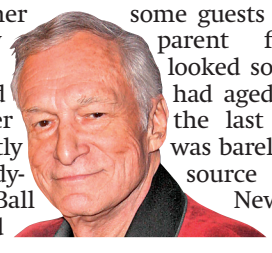
Divorce still devastating

DIVORCE Reese Witherspoon admits that her 2006 split from ex-husband Ryan Phillippe still haunts her. The actress says that the divorce was "very humiliating and very isolating" in an interview in the April issue of Elle magazine.

"I still have moments where I'm like, 'Nothing's ever gonna make sense again,'" she says. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Hefner appears frail: Source

PEOPLE Hugh Hefner seems to be finally showing his age. The 83-year-old Playboy founder stepped out recently at his annual Kandyland Masquerade Ball — and shocked some guests with his apparent frailty. "He looked so old, like he had aged 10 years in the last month and was barely moving," a source tells Fox News. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**



Brit's first show 'a bit off,' dad says

BLOG Looks like the kick-off for Britney Spears' new tour didn't please at least one critic: Her dad, Jamie Spears. According to sources, Jamie complained that Britney's "timing was a bit off" during her opening night in New Orleans, according to the Chicago Sun-Times. "He was very unhappy with Britney's performance," a source tells the paper. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Friday Partly cloudy -7 C / -19 C
Saturday Flurries -3 C / -10 C
Sunday Flurries -12 C / -14 C

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

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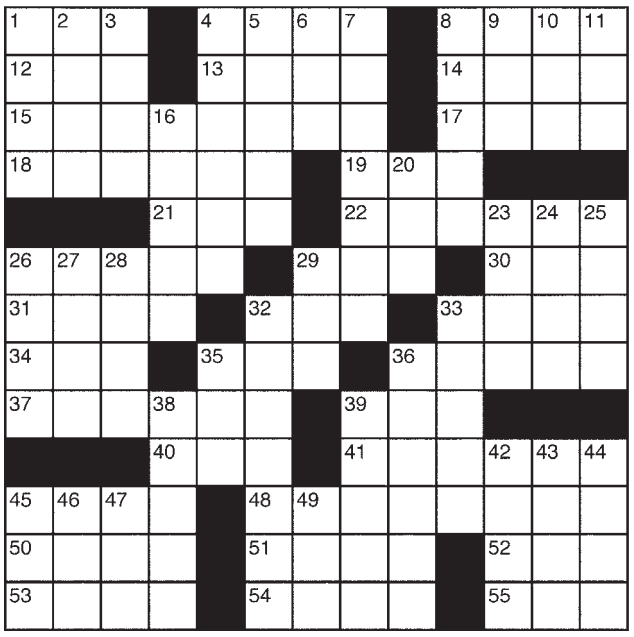
Take Five



Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

		9					3	8
	5	4		9	8			
1			5					
9		1	6		2			
	3						1	
			3		4	8		6
					7			5
			4	3		2	7	
4	7					6		

Crossword across

1 "Keep it down!"
4 Touch
8 Consider
12 Sailor's assent
13 Clean
14 Gumbo ingredient
15 Track star, maybe
17 Round figure?
18 Recluse
19 Banjo's kin
21 Whichever
22 Discontent time?
26 Yuletide punchbowl fill
29 Phone transmission
30 Galena, e.g.
31 Peregrinate
32 Snoop
33 Cheshire countenance
34 Lemieux milieu
35 Fella
36 Gleam
37 "The Caretaker" playwright
39 Inseparable
40 Parisian pal
41 Family subdivisions
45 Genie's home
48 Break into factions
50 Theatre award
51 Links props
52 Rotating part
53 Sport
54 Lip
55 Storefront-sign abbr.

Crossword down

1 Cummerbund
2 Advertise big-time
3 Frau's mate
4 Canopy
5 Nuts
6 Work with
7 High-speed road
8 Doughnut-shop order
9 — out a living
10 Screw up
11 VIP in China's history
16 Mirror's offering
20 Breakfast-cereal name
23 Spelling or Amos
24 Green land
25 "Monopoly" payment
26 Suitcase
27 Places
28 It takes the cake
29 Sauté
32 Sticklers
33 First American orbiter
35 Jewel
36 Type of layered rock
38 Diminish gradually
39 Lecher's looks
42 Leave a good impression?
43 Posterior
44 Weaponry
45 Despondent
46 Copper head?
47 "Mamma — !"
49 Shooter ammo

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

B	O	L	D	■	S	E	E	K	■	W	A	G
A	J	A	R	■	I	V	A	N	■	A	V	E
W	A	T	E	R	G	A	T	E	■	T	E	N
L	I	E	S	I	N	■	■	A	L	E	R	T
■	■	■	S	O	■	H	E	D	E	R	■	■
A	C	H	Y	■	F	A	R	■	A	L	S	O
T	O	O	■	■	U	Z	I	■	■	O	U	R
V	O	T	E	■	M	E	N	■	B	O	M	B
■	■	W	A	L	E	S	■	M	Y	■	■	■
S	P	A	R	E	■	■	O	O	L	O	N	G
O	R	T	■	G	O	L	D	W	A	T	E	R
D	O	E	■	A	V	I	D	■	W	I	R	E
A	P	R	■	L	A	S	S	■	S	C	O	W

5	2	7	6	3	8	9	1	4
3	9	1	2	4	5	7	8	6
4	8	6	9	7	1	3	2	5
7	1	2	4	9	3	5	6	8
9	5	8	7	1	6	2	4	3
6	3	4	5	8	2	1	9	7
2	4	5	3	6	9	8	7	1
8	7	3	1	2	4	6	5	9
1	6	9	8	5	7	4	3	2

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Chicken and Potato Curry

INGREDIENTS:
1 chicken, about 3 lbs (1.35 kg), cut into 8 pieces
1/2 tsp (2 ml) ground turmeric
1-1/2-in. (4-cm) piece fresh ginger, peeled and finely chopped
juice of 1/2 lemon
pinch of salt
2 tbsp (25 ml) canola oil
1 dried red chili pepper, halved
1 tsp (5 ml) brown or black mustard seeds
1/2 tsp (2 ml) fennel seeds
1/2 tsp (2 ml) cumin seeds
1/2 tsp (2 ml) ground cinnamon
1 tbsp (15 ml) gram (i.e. pulse) flour
3 garlic cloves, roughly crushed
1/2 green pepper, thinly sliced
1 large onion, sliced
14-oz (398-ml) can chopped tomatoes
2 potatoes, peeled
2 cups (500 ml) thinly sliced cabbage
1 cup (250 ml) frozen peas, thawed and drained

METHOD:
1. Remove skin from chicken. Cut 3–4 slashes in chicken, right to bones. Mix turmeric, ginger, lemon juice and a little salt, then rub all over chicken pieces. Leave to marinate 30 minutes in a cool place.
2. Heat oil in large, heavy-based frying pan. Add dried chili pepper and mustard, fennel and cumin seeds, and let splutter and pop for a few minutes. Stir in cinnamon and gram flour. Watch carefully so spices do not burn.
3. Add garlic, pepper and onion to spice mixture and cook a few minutes, stirring. Add chicken and tomatoes and stir. Cover and cook 15 minutes.
4. Meanwhile, cook potatoes in a pot of boiling water for 5 minutes. Drain and cut into bite-sized pieces. Blanch cabbage in separate pot of boiling water 1 minute, then drain.
5. Add potatoes and cabbage to curried chicken and stir. Cover pan and continue to simmer over moderately low heat 20–25 minutes, or until chicken is completely cooked and tender. Add peas and warm through.

SERVES 4

rd.ca
For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
A man is conspicuous by being anxious. You'll get no satisfaction from lying. Don't play meaningless games.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
A peer makes your effort succeed. A madman is coming to visit. Progress is made by giving unconditional love.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
A woman improves your working conditions. Talk about the past to save the day. Give someone an adoring smile.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A tough guy solves a ridiculous mystery. Deal with ethical problems. A dream delivers a bolt from the blue.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Silly claims are made by a trend-setter. Have faith in a family member. Refuse to annoy your neighbours.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A great romance will be inspiring. You'll find a solution for an impolite person. An old friend tries to pull a fast one.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
An oddball makes cautious statements. A conservative man's challenge must be faced. An annoying person's advice won't make sense.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
A bureaucrat will change his tune. A mediator makes a save. Don't advise a friend to tell a secret.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
Persist even when you're faced with serious doubts. Risky witticisms trample someone's privacy. You'll be challenged by a mediocre person.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
Someone neglects important details. Give support or fall into despair. A man has done a good job of covering his tracks.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Making unnecessary noise will harm your progress. A sorrowful friend is superficial. A buddy needs to see kindness in someone.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Physical fitness makes a conquest sweeter. You'll solve a problem after a hectic day. Social activities are a setting for embarrassment.

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